

D 9501 (c)

F. I. FERMLINGER, British journalist, is said to be working for Japanese. Was in Shanghai in the early part of this year and is at present residing in Tokyo. *mania? & Japanese*

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CONFIDENTIAL

## SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

S. 1, Special Branch

## REPORT

Date October 19, 1939.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D. 9501 (C)
Date October 19, 1939

Subject. F.R. FIRMINGER - British.

Made by D.S. Pitts

Forwarded by

C. G. G. 8.9

F.R. FIRMINGER, British, suspected of being actively engaged on behalf of Japanese interests, arrived in Shanghai from Tokyo, where his address was 25 DAIMACHI AKASAKI, on September 20. From that date until September 29, he resided at the Cathay Mansions, when he shifted to the Broadway Mansions for one day. On September 30, he left for Nanking by plane. He has not returned.

FIRMINGER passed through Shanghai in May this year en route to Hongkong and Chungking, being a passenger in the s.s. "Empress of Canada" which left for the Colony on May 31.

Sir,  
Enquiry from  
French Police  
E 19/10

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*A. Pitts*

D. S.

D. C. (Special Branch).

**SECRET**

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE	
S. B. REGISTRY	
No. S. B. D.	950100
Aug. 9, 1939.	8 32

No information can be secured locally in regard to (1) Frank Edwin FIRMINGER or (2) Michel AMOROSO.

In regard to FENKL and LOCSMANDI, the following details are submitted :-

Alois FENKL, born November 17, 1895 (?) at Falkenan, Eger, Czechoslovakia. Of German nationality and a former Czecho-Slovakian subject. After graduating from the Government Technical College at Pilsen as a mechanical engineer, he was engaged until March 1915 with the Gun Construction Department of the Skoda Works. Shortly afterwards he was appointed to the Military Secret Service of the 70th Regiment of the Austrian Army, but in October 1916 was captured on the Russian front and sent to Blagoveschensk. In 1917 he was released for employment and after the first Russian revolution fled to Irkutsk, where he was imprisoned by the Red Army. On the recapture of Irkutsk by the White Army he was released and secured employment in Tarbagatai, Transbaikial until December 1920, when he was forced to escape to Harbin, being suspected of conspiring with the White Russian Army against the Bolsheviks.

In Harbin he was engaged as a technical agent by the International Sleeping Car Company for about a year at the end of which time he obtained a post with the Hugo Stinnes China Company in Shanghai, and later with their

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branch in Tsingtao. In 1923 he entered the service of Buchheister & Co., 8 Siking Road, which position he held until January 1, 1926.

He was then unemployed until he became interested in the Argus Information and Intelligence Bureau, which began operating in May 1929 at 33 Kiangse Road. This concern, it was ascertained at the time, was nothing less than a political office subsidized by either the National Government or some group of Kuomintang officials for purposes of securing reliable political intelligence.

FENKL severed his connections with this Bureau the same year and obtained temporary employment with the Shanghai Waterworks Company.

From 1931 till 1934, FENKL was employed with Messrs. Reuter, Brockleman & Co., and from 1935 until 1937 with Messrs. Elarco, 282 Baikal Road.

In 1938 he was a partner in the German firm of Hoebich & Co., 133 Yuen Ming Yuen Road, but since that time his movements and activities have become somewhat obscure. He is not registered as a German citizen, neither has he made any application for a German passport.

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Paul Stephen LOCSEMANDI alias LOSEMANDI, engineer, Austrian, born in Vienna on December 8, 1897; holds passport No. 08945 issued on April 21, 1931 at Fuh Rici Vonn (?), Austria.

In 1936 was residing at the Royal Hotel and later at Range Road. Details of his activities at this period are not available. LOCSEMANDI arrived in Indochina on November 5, 1938 from Kwangse and is now in Tonkin as a mining prospector on behalf of a group of Hongkong financiers. Nothing known to his detriment.

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21/7/39.

- 1) FIRMINGER, Frank Edwin,  
British.  
Born London, 7/7/07. University Professor.  
Arr. Hongkong from Japan. May 1939.  
2 June - Yunnanfu to Chungking.  
28 June - Hanoi from Yunnan - by plane  
to Hongkong.  
Passport 153,353 issued London, 17/8/33.  
re-issued 17/8/38.

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- 2) AMOROSO, Michel.  
Italian -  
From 1938 - Far East, possibly Shanghai.  
Proof. M.C. Agent.

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- 3) FENCL or FENKL  
Czechoslovakia  
Palace Hotel.  
Was connected with  
Huber (Swiss).

- 4) Locsmandi (Ex-Austrian)  
At present at LOKAI - (Yunnan - Indo-China border).  
- Gold-diggers.

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FENKL is reported to have applied for a  
German Passport.  
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S.I.  
J.B.  
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